United Nations A/61/775–S/2007/120

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
2 March 2007

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda item 27
Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council
Sixty-second year

Letter dated 10 February 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as a representative of the country coordinator of the GUAM-area countries (Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova), I have the honour to transmit herewith a statement by the GUAM member States regarding the so-called local and parliamentary elections in Abkhazia, Georgia (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex would be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 27, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Viktor **Kryzhanivskyi**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

07-25583 (E) 050307

Annex to the letter dated 10 February 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the GUAM member States regarding the so-called local and parliamentary elections in Abkhazia, Georgia

The GUAM member States express their deep concern over the so-called local and parliamentary elections to be held in Abkhazia, Georgia, on 11 February and 4 March 2007.

We stress that any elections in the territory of Georgia should be carried out in accordance with the legislation of Georgia and with the direct participation of the entire population of the region. The illegitimate separatist regime in Abkhazia, Georgia, is intending to hold so-called elections without the participation of the overwhelming majority of the local population, predominantly Georgians, who were forcibly expelled from the region owing to a grave crime against humanity — ethnic cleansing fixed in the final documents of the Budapest (1994), Lisbon (1996) and Istanbul (1999) summits of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The so-called elections run contrary to the standards and values of democracy and the rule of law while being conducted in the region, where fundamental human rights and freedoms, especially of ethnic Georgians, are subject to gross and mass violations as reflected in the reports of various international organizations. It cannot be claimed that such elections have any kind of legitimacy and their results a priori must be considered null and void.

The GUAM member States strongly condemn holding the so-called local and parliamentary elections by the unrecognized separatist regime as destructive acts, mainly directed against the peace process and designed to impose a fait accompli situation for misleading the international community.

The GUAM member States underline that any support or call for support to the so-called elections contradicts the universally recognized norms and principles of international law pertaining to the respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the inviolability of their internationally recognized borders and the inadmissibility of interference in their internal affairs.

The GUAM member States call upon all the States Members of the United Nations (Council of Europe, European Union, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) and other international organizations to condemn such illegal acts and support the ongoing efforts aimed at finding a peaceful solution to the conflict in Abkhazia, Georgia, based on the territorial integrity of Georgia within its internationally recognized borders.